

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Upon receiving e-mail, which is deprived of its attachment file due to capacity limitation of mail server 21a, MFP 11a transmits e-mail containing its own IP address and a transfer request for transferring the attachment file to the transmission source, MFP 14a, and other transmission destinations, MFP 12a and 13a. Of those MFP which received said e-mail, MFP 12a is accessible to MFP 11a via network 30 and transmits the attachment file to MFP 11a and MFP 11a prints out the attachment file upon receiving it.

The invention makes it possible to acquire and print out a file attached to an e-mail when it cannot be received directly due to the capacity limit of the mail server by obtaining it from the transmission source or from another transmission destination.